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COURT DIRECTORY.
Circuit Court.—First Monday after the fourth Monday in March and September.
County Court.—Second Monday in February, May, August, and November.
Probate Court.—Second Monday in January, April, July and October.

LOCAL AND COUNTY NEWS.

The Ladies' Library Club will meet at Mrs. J. M. McLellan's Thursday afternoon, at 2 o'clock sharp.

"SECOND GRAND OPENING."—Messrs. Woolfolk & Gordon are determined that the people shall know what they have to sell, and what they propose to sell for. On our fifth page will be found a large advertisement of this firm, in which the prices of various articles are given. Read and see the bargains they offer you. Defying competition, they invite your criticism and inspection of their goods.

The Lincoln county medical association met in regular session on last Saturday. In consequence of the accumulation of unfinished business on hand, the reading of the essay was laid over. The consideration of Dr. Hutt's essay which was read at last meeting, elicited a lively and interesting debate. Its discussion, and that of the essay of Dr. Ward were continued until next session. An essay from Dr. Chenoweth will be read.

ON A HUNT.—Col. Hutt, Col. Synnor, E. N. Bonfils, Esq., Dr. Hutt, Mr. F. Wing, and Mr. McDonald, left here last Thursday for a camp and hunt on the bottom, where they are now feasting on game, we suppose, and enjoying themselves generally. A large party from St. Louis are also there, and reports come to us that their camp looks like a little city, and that there is about two hunters for every duck.

SIMON'S DRAMATIC TROUPE.—Notwithstanding the stormy evening, a very good audience gathered at the Christian Institute Monday evening to witness the drama of Hidden Hand—a drama from the novel of that name by Mrs. Southworth. This combination has been travelling for some time, and from the criticisms of the press, we were led to expect something above the ordinary in the dramatic line; nor were we disappointed. The play, though not calculated to bring out the strength of the company, was well sustained throughout. Our space does not permit a full criticism; nor is it necessary. The very general approval of the discriminating and intelligent audience testified sufficiently to the merit of the play. Annie Simon in her two characters of Archie and Capitola was simply imitable. The same may be justly said of Mr. Simon as Wool, the irrepressible darkey. Ryan as old Hurricane, Clifford as the out-law and Haucker as Col. Lenoir gave evidence of possessing dramatic talent of a high order. Rip Van Winkle will be put on the boards to-night (Tuesday). The repertoire for the week comprises Aurora Floyd, East Lynne, Ticket-of-Leave-Man, Fanchon and other plays of like character. A matinee for the convenience of those living in the country, will be given Saturday afternoon. We can assure our readers that this troupe is well worthy of their patronage. Its members are no novices in the histrionic art, but are experienced, accomplished and accurate delineators.

JUSTICES' BLANKS FOR SALE HERE.

OBITUARY.
Died on the 8th day of October, 1873, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Daniel Draper, Louisiana, Mo., Mrs. Jane Riggs, relict of the late Gen. Jonathan Riggs, of Lincoln county, aged 86 years, 7 months and 23 days.

The late husband of Mrs. Riggs was distinguished among the early pioneers of Missouri, and among the earliest American settlers, having removed with his wife from Kentucky to the territory of Missouri, then a part of Louisiana, in the year 1811, and settled in St. Charles county, among the earliest settled parts of Missouri.

In the year 1812, the war between the United States and Great Britain and her Indian allies commenced, and immediately alarm spread all through the frontier, requiring all the able-bodied men to fly to the defense of their country and homes. Among the very first was Mr. Riggs, who was at once elected a lieutenant of the corps of rangers for defense from the attacks of the Indians, there being a British soldiers within the borders of the territory. In that service Mr. Riggs distinguished himself by his zeal, ability and bravery, which, after the war, and up to the time of his death in 1834, were rewarded by his fellow citizens with many public trusts, among which were those of colonel and general of militia, sheriff of the county of Lincoln, and the confidence of the whole community.

As the public journals of the country, at the time of his death, gave ample testimony to his distinguished worth and patriotism, this brief reference to him is made now, merely for the purpose of reviewing recollections of him who was the loved companion of the aged matron who has just left the shores of time, to be reunited to her husband and other loved ones in the land where there are no more wars and no more suffering.

Mrs. Riggs was not a woman who set up claims for high literary attainments, or brilliancy of fashionable circles of life, and yet she was a woman distinguished for many high qualities that adorn female life and character, which gained for her the esteem of all who knew her, and she numbered in years gone by hundreds of the first men and women of the country as her friends and acquaintances, besides scores and hundreds of wayfaring men who formerly stopped at her hospitable home on the banks of the Osage. This was noted as a house of entertainment, not kept as a matter of choice, perhaps, but as a matter of necessity to accommodate the thousands who formerly travelled the public thoroughfare from St. Charles to Salt river and beyond, who gladly availed themselves of the privilege of a warm welcome and abundant cheer at her house.

Mrs. Riggs was ever distinguished for her frankness of disposition, the strictest integrity and truthfulness, and, when not suffering from affliction, which she endured with the greatest fortitude and patience, for an overflow of spirits and cheerfulness, together with an untiring industry that imparted their effects to her children and to all around her. Among her children were belles of great fascination, among whose various accomplishments in early life were the manufacturing at home of the most elegant plaids and flannels, for their own wear, as noted for their durability as for their beauty. Alas, that in these later days so little of this class of accomplishments of young ladies should be known.

My earliest recollections of Mrs. Riggs, myself an early emigrant to Missouri, paint her as a young and elegant woman, of fair complexion; comely, indeed beautiful, features; the perfect picture of health, of untiring industry; her whole being glowing with animation of spirits and of energy of character that made her home and its surroundings like a little Eden. Though then the mother of three children, and twenty-nine years of age, she seemed to my youthful imagination but little beyond her teens. But soon a sad change came over her high spirits and bright prospects. A terrible white swelling prostrated her on a bed of long and painful suffering, leaving her an invalid and cripple for life. I do not willingly allude to these sufferings, so painful to the memory of her relatives, but for the purpose of illustrating her great energy of character, for after a partial recovery of health and strength, her industry and ambition revived, and she lived to raise and educate a large family of sons and daughters to adorn the walks of life.

It is not my design to write a biography of the deceased, but merely to note a few items to indicate the leading traits of a beautiful character, whose life commences away back before the United States constitution; before steamboats, railroads or telegraphs were thought of, and who lived to witness with her own eyes, the triumphs of all these great discoveries and inventions that have so astonished the civilized world.

One incident of the war times of 1812 will close this hasty sketch. Immediately after the war commenced, all the scattered settlers of the frontier fled, for safety from the Indians, to the stockades or log-forts in the country, one of which was a few miles from the home of the deceased, and there she went with her two children, her husband being in the active military service of the country. All the families of the neighborhood were crowded into the log cabins constituting the fort, some of which were occupied by two or three families for the want of room. Very soon Mrs. Riggs found the population was, as she said, "too thick to thrive," and otherwise altogether uncongenial to her habits and tastes, and she concluded she would rather risk the dangers of the Indians than the pleasures of fort life under the circumstances. She declared her intention to return to her home, and despite all remonstrances against it, home she went, with her two little children, and there remained till the return of peace. Luckily, she was unmolested by savage or wild beast, though often alarmed at real or imaginary dangers. The last two years of her life she was in receipt of a pension from the government, as the widow of Gen. Riggs, a fit compliment, and a small recompense for their services in the war of 1812.

Mrs. Riggs was the mother of eleven children, of whom six, besides many grand-children, survive to bless her memory and mourn her loss. Though they are widely scattered abroad in different states, they rest assured that the last days of their mother were those of peace and quiet; all her temporal wants supplied, and her sufferings only those which worn out nature required to sever the vital cord of life.

ADDRESS.
Of Prof. W. T. Thurmond, of Troy, before the Lincoln County Teachers' Institute, October 18th, 1873.

EDUCATION. My theme is by no means a new one; nevertheless its universal importance and unabating interest. First, let us contemplate man in his infant state. He then appears at once the type of helplessness and innocence. His first actions seem the result of mere instinct, the sole guide of the lower animals; but ere long the mind awakes; the familiar objects of the household are distinguished; the character, offices and authority of parents are in a measure understood; the relations of other persons, as kindred or friends, are learned. After awhile a dim idea of a great first cause, the Author of all things, is formed. Merging into youth and early manhood, the faculties of the mind are developed and a miniature world presented to the view. Now the expansion of all these faculties to their highest capacities for comprehending all the facts, conditions, influences and relations of creative powers and created things and beings, is education in its full development. Man's sphere is at first limited, his vision is dim, his horizon is contracted. He is placed here under conditions. By his mental, moral and physical energies he is to work out his own destiny. He is in a large measure the architect of his own fortune. The elements are within him and about him; he must organize them, he must utilize them; he must give them shape and efficiency in working out the problem of his existence. Man is preeminently a rational, a spiritual being. This tabernacle of clay, this mere physical world, is only his primary state of existence—his normal school. He is the proprietor of the earth; he has been given dominion over the beasts of the field, the fishes of the sea, the fowls of the air—the earth, and all that in it. To him has been vouchsafed the seed-time and harvest. It is his privilege to subdue all things to his control, making them tributary to his desires, ministers of his pleasure. The beasts of the field, moving according to the instincts of their lower natures, hold their eyes ever downward towards the earth. Man, created in the image of his God, in his erect stature, looketh upwards to the stars. That man was made little lower than the angels is a pleasing thought. With him "is not all of life to live, nor all of death to die."

"How complicated, how wonderful is man! How passing wonder he who made him such! Who centered in our makes such strange extremes
From different natures marvelously mixed.
Connection exquisite of distant worlds!
Distinguished link in beings endless chain!

An angel's arm can't snatch me from the grave;
Legions of angels can't confine me there!"

Here is a stimulus, a motive to high resolves and noble efforts, to expand his faculties, increase his ideas, amplify his comprehension, so that he may drink deep draughts from all the fountains of knowledge and love, and enjoy a "feast of reason and a flow of soul;" receiving and dispensing happiness, shedding a halo of light about him, cheering, comforting and exalting. As man ascends the tower of education his observations are extended; objects are multiplied; facts are increased; his conceptions of things, men and God, are enlarged. Their relations, their dependencies are understood; his own responsibility is felt. His enlarged intelligence teaches him how he may conform to the laws of nature and of God and become necessary to the consummation of the greatest good, the consciousness of which is the highest happiness. Herein consists the moral duty of parents to educate their children. Ignorance, indolence, poverty and crime go hand and hand. There is no shirking the responsibility. It is a positive requirement, charged in the visible enactments of God.

Some are wont to regard education as of but little practical benefit, as an accomplishment to be worn as a dazzling jewel to please the fancy. A grave error, indeed. It is indispensable. It is, as it were, the magnetic needle to guide our bark upon the sea of life. It is the magician's wand to open up the secrets of Nature. It is the potent rod with which we may smite the rocks in the deserts of ignorance, and bring forth the

crystal waters that nourish the ambrosial fruits of the gods, upon which the soul may feast. It is the talisman of power. Knowledge is power. Practice is but theory put in motion. Without antecedent theory, theory what becomes of practice? Education does not necessarily come from school discipline—going through a prescribed course—but, as a general rule, we must accept the system of knowledge as arranged in our text books as the shortest and best method of attaining the object in view. Cicero said, "study is a voluntary and vigorous application of the mind to any subject." The American people are great utilitarians. The question, "will it pay?" is ever uppermost. A monomaniac seems to exist on the subject of money. An ancient philosopher once said, "I care nothing for gold, my own thoughts are my only real treasures." I imagine he would have few disciples in this day and generation. The animal spirits of our people are constantly effervescing, running over. There is abundant action. Perhaps deeper study, more thought, would give greater consistency and permanency to our free institutions. The chief object of education is to excite thought. Thought works out the unknown from the known, the invisible from the visible. Its realm is the intermediate world, connecting the finite and temporal with the infinite and eternal. It taketh the wings of the morning and visiteth the uttermost parts of the world, exploring the hidden secrets of nature, communing with the myriad genii through nature up to nature's God; bridging the chasm between the physical and spiritual, soaring into vast fields of countless worlds to witness and be impressed with the power, the beneficence and glory of the Author of our being. Who sits in the center of the Universe upon His great White Throne.

Franklin, by a simple process, drew the electric fluid from the clouds. What astounding results have come from the elaboration of this thought. This subtle agent now passes in silent currents to all points of the compass traversing the earth, subduing time and space, ministering to the wants, comforts and happiness of man. The trivial circumstance of an apple falling to the ground led the inquiring mind of Newton to the discovery of the grand law of Gravitation, by which the planets, whirling in space, move in their respective orbits in matchless harmony. This was active, vigilant thought. Fulton gave us a new and wonderful application of steam, making the vessel to "walk the waters like a thing of life." This was thought, busy thought. In the vast range of Political Economy there is no agency of greater value than education, the diffusion of knowledge which at once stimulates every enterprise and gives vigor to all the instrumentalities that operate towards the elevation of man in the scale of being. The active mind of the educated man is ever seeking new fields of exploration; it is ever devising means for dividing and shortening labor; increasing power; reducing distances; opening up communications; establishing commercial relations; increasing productivity; comparing the methods in the arts, sciences and industries of the world, and improving upon them. Our noble Constitution, this admirable framework of government, was but the outgrowth of the necessities of the times. The great minds of the times found themselves. Their inventive and deductive powers of reason were called upon to construct the machinery of a new form of government, to conform to the new ideas that had been evolved from their aspiring thoughts to higher life and larger liberty. Hereto, external forces had held in subjection the nobler promptings to a higher civilization. Free thought and free speech were inhibited, cramping the mind and impoverishing the soul. It is gratifying to observe the tendencies towards free institutions in the world at large. Kindly power is now held by a slight tenure where formerly ignorance bound the masses in iron fetters. The idea of the brotherhood of mankind is beginning to assert itself. Personal liberty, social rights, religious freedom, are speaking in thunder tones to the terror of the oppressors of mankind. The area upon which these conflicting forces are battling is no longer circumscribed; no "Pent up Ulicia contracts their powers." In vain shall despots invoke arbitrary power to crush this spirit; it will not down at their bidding. But liberty is not license. Liberty regulated by law, having its sanction and support in the intelligence and virtue of the people, the source of all power, is the happy consummation devoutly to be wished.

The Public School system is a mighty power in the land. He who invigilates against it, or opposes his influence to it, is destined to be overwhelmed by a flood of popular sentiment. It is the essential principle of our political organization. It is indispensable to its homogeneity, its harmony, its stability and perpetuation. We boast of our civil and religious liberties. How else are they to be maintained? We talk of the elective franchise and trial by jury. How are they to be subserved the interests of good government, good society, peace and happiness, except through the elevating and stimulating influences of education extended to all the constituent elements of the government? I humbly believe that the enlightened, faithful educator is a benefactor to his race, and that his services are of the highest value at this particular juncture in the history of our country. Progress in civilization, whose motive power is education, has given us the palatial residence instead of the miserable hut; improved implements of agriculture; for the uses of commerce and travel the steamboat and railroad, instead of the uncertain sail vessel and slow moving wagon; the printed books and newspaper, making intelligence of easy access and requirement; the telegraph, enabling the people of the continents to talk to one another, as if in immediate presence, upon matters of business, social life, politics and religion; the Natural Sciences, illustrating and making familiar the multifarious phenomena in the realms of Nature; the useful arts in manufactures; the ornamental in sculpture, music and painting—improving the condition in every department of life. The moral principle is the saving element—the cohesive power that holds in harmonious action all the other forces according to the laws springing from the infinite mind, recognizing which and conforming to which man achieves his highest destiny and is crowned with his greatest glory. Education dispels the mists of superstition, breaks the clouds of error and prejudice, lets in the effulgent light of Truth to illumine the dark recesses of the soul, to warm the moral energies and send out the ministering angels of Affection, Benevolence and Charity to ameliorate the condition of mankind. It strips the false guise from mere pretensions, self-connected and arrogant bigotry, and subjects its theories to the searching analysis of enlightened reason, illustrating and enforcing unimpaired truth. The cultivated mind has a companionship in its com-

munion with nature that is a constant source of the highest pleasure. The shifting scenes and changing forms of growth and decay; composition and decomposition; the formations and combinations in the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms, in the earth, air and sky, furnish it subjects for thought.

"There are books in brooks, sermons in stones."

"Day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night sheweth knowledge." By these influences man's nature is elevated and spiritualized. His character is assimilated to that higher type that is fitted for the brighter sphere beyond. Every object has a language and a voice, and with them he holds high converse.

"There is a pleasure in the pathless woods,
There is a rapture on the lonely shore,
There is society where none intrudes
By the deep sea, and music in its roar."

The educated man may appropriate the thoughts of others to his own enjoyment. He may commune with the immortal spirits that have joined the innumerable caravan and gone hence. Their pleasing fancy, their lofty reasoning, their noble patriotism, high philanthropy, fervent piety, are at his command, a riving as light to his pathway as he marches onward. The value of education is well attested by the untiringness of its possessors to dispose of their stock even at high premium. Richest take unto themselves wings and flee away. The jewels of the intellect are precious treasures beyond price; they do not break through nor steal them; they are secure from the vicissitudes of life, an ever present comfort; they will shine with increasing lustre when the scenes and associations of time and sense shall have passed away, and the spirit is pursuing its studies in the mysteries of God, in that Higher University where the light of His presence ever continueth. The teachers calling is one of great responsibility and usefulness; his labors are often ill requited by the absence of that sympathy and support desired and expected; his reward is not much in popular applause; still there are pleasing incidents and happy thoughts that come like comforting angels, whispering solace to his heart—he is doing good. To teachers and students, who may all learn much, and derive much pleasure from learning, let me say in the language of another:

"In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of life,
Be not like dumb driven cattle,
Be a hero in the strife!"

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